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SELF-INFLATING CHANGING PAD

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A self-inflating, collapsible changing pad includes an open-cell foam cushion unit; a flexible, airtight cover enclosing the cushion unit; and a self-inflation valve situated in the cover and communicating between the exterior and interior of the cover. The valve is operable to inflate and deflate the cushion unit, whereby, when the valve is open and the cushion unit is collapsed, the cushion unit is expanded by the flow of air into the valve in response to the pressure differential between the interior and the exterior of the cover. To collapse the changing pad, the valve is opened, allowing air to escape from the cushion unit as the changing pad is rolled into a substantially cylindrical configuration. The valve is then closed to maintain the changing pad in this collapsed state. To restore the changing pad to its inflated state, the valve is opened, whereby the elastic expansion of the foam material creates a pressure differential with respect to the atmospheric pressure, causing air to flow into the foam material, until the cushion unit is fully expanded.